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NOVEMBER 25-DECEMBER 9, 2015

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## ON THE COVER

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# LAVENDER'S FIRST THURSDAYS

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## OUR LAVENDER

FROM THE EDITOR | BY ANDY LIEN

# Giving Thanks for Praise

As we head into the Thanksgiving weekend, I want to share the results of the 2015 Minnesota Magazine & Publishing Association (MMPA) Excellence Awards. It's a time for me to give thanks as an editor for being able to work with such talented people as well as give thanks for the praise, itself. We all know that there's something special about being recognized by a third party for a job well done, and I am grateful for the opportunity to put our work out there to be judged by our peers and receive these Excellence Awards.

### Gold

Single-Topic Issue: 2015 Spring Wedding Issue  
"From Minnesota With Love"



### Gold

Profile Article: "Picture Perfect: Ania & Molly Nadybska"  
by Kathleen Watson Bradbury



### Silver

Single Spread or Page Design:  
Feline Rescue - Where Cats Live

### Silver

Regular Column: Playing for the Other Team by Nell Gelhaus

### Bronze

Regular Column: Skirting the Issues by Ellen Krug

### Bronze

Editor's Letter to the Readers: "Grow Old Along With Me"  
by Andy Lien

### Bronze

Overall Excellence: Lavender Magazine

As in 2014, Lavender Magazine was again in the pool of the top five magazines in Minnesota in 2015. The pool is getting deeper each year and to achieve this status is something we don't take lightly. It's not just our work we're representing, it's the community as well. Two of our writers won for their regular columns, showing a consistency in their expertise. The 2015 Spring Wedding Issue was the winner of the wedding issues in the state. The magazine, itself, took Bronze for Overall Excellence. I'm proud of this team and this community.

With great thanks,  
Andy ■

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# Freeing the Ghost of Black Friday

An invitation to the Guthrie's upcoming annual lollapalooza, *A Christmas Carol*, made me think of Dickens. How would he have reacted to America's Thanksgiving-cum-Black Friday rites? I picture him filling his ink pot, sharpening his quill, turning up the lamp, and setting pen to parchment.

When Dickens dashed off his iconic novella in six weeks in 1843, Britons didn't celebrate Thanksgiving, our gateway to orgiastic spending, nor did they have big-box stores or SUVs to haul home newly bought loot. I haven't the data to ascertain if London shoppers fought to the death over their equivalent of Cabbage Patch dolls, Beanie Babies, and Power Wheels Barbie Jeeps, but we're not far removed from other aspects of 1843's bleak London winter.

It wasn't bleak for the wealthy. Scrooge is a one percenter (the Guthrie features his bulging safe), and his "profligate" nephew Fred keeps a warm and merry house, with a devoted wife, jolly friends, and abundant food and drink. But counterparts to Scrooge's ill-paid, overworked clerk, Bob Cratchit, exist today; after all, who mans those big-boxes through Thanksgiving Day into the dawn hours of Black Friday, often for less

than a living wage?

Perhaps the most chilling part of the novella and the stage portrayal is the massive Ghost of Christmas present, flinging open his robes to reveal two starved, feral children: "Ignorance" and "Want." They're still abroad in the world.

No immediate cure, but mega-sports and camping retailer, REI, has dipped a toe in the waters. REI recently announced, "This Black Friday, we're closing all 143 of our stores. Instead of reporting to work, we're paying our employees to do what we love most — be outside. Perhaps John Muir said it best back in 1901: 'thousands of tired, nerve-shaken, over-civilized people are beginning to find out that going to the mountains is going home.'"

Most other employees will not have this option, but shoppers do. Avoid the stores, and outside or in, consider what home means to you. Fighting for more stuff? Or accepting REI's invitation?

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### LAVENDER'S SCORE THURSDAYS AT UNION BAR & GRILL

OCTOBER 21, 2015



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## OUR SCENE

FOOD & DINING | BY SHANE LUECK



Photos courtesy of Patty Keegan

# Happy Anniversary to a Neighborhood Staple

Owners may have changed in the last 40 years, but the neighborhood's love for local eatery Jakeeno's has stayed the same.

When Jack Keegan opened Jakeeno's Pizza and Pasta in Minneapolis' Powderhorn Park neighborhood, he never envisioned himself retiring. But when the time came, his daughters, Amy and Patty, stepped up to the plate.

That was 2001. That year, the Keegans' business drew in \$500,000 in revenue, quite a growth from the \$60,000 the business earned in its first year. Almost 15 years later it's clear the sisters have not only continued their father's legacy, but have nurtured and grown the customer base even more.

Now, in 2015, the sisters have stayed true to their father's vision. The menu items and recipes are the same, and that isn't going to change. Everything they serve is homemade, right down to the sauce they put on their pizzas, and it shows. Jakeeno's pizzas are true to Midwestern tradi-

tion: the crust is deliciously crispy, the cheese is gooey, and the toppings are applied in ample proportion.

Sure, visitors can stick to their staples: pepperoni, sausage, canadian bacon. But I implore you to take a step out of the ordinary and leap into *extraordinary*. Just mention Jakeeno's bacon cheeseburger pizza and I'm already reaching for my car keys.

With the eatery's ability to make the mouth water, it's no wonder the Keegan sisters celebrated the restaurant's 40 years in business in December of 2014. Complete with anniversary cake free for customers, Jakeeno's let it be known that they are proud to be in business for so long and are looking forward to the foreseeable future in the Powderhorn neighborhood.

Patty Keegan was ecstatic to share, "We have loved being a part of this community for the past 40 years...thanks to all of YOU!" ■

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# ADAM RIPPON

## For the Love of the Process

At the 2015 U.S. Figure Skating Championships, Adam Rippon combined athleticism and artistry for an extraordinary and memorable performance. Winning the free skate and finishing second overall, he set a new standard for U.S. men's skating. What made it all the more impressive was that he had begun the season doubting his place in the sport and wondering whether his impressive early achievements (two World Junior Championships) were the pinnacle of his career.

Rippon's sense of commitment and responsibility can partly be attributed to growing up as the oldest of six children. With such a large family, he learned to balance multiple tasks, focus, see things through, and give his best even on a bad day. Among the tasks he has recently taken on is choreography. Long known as an artistic and expressive skater, Rippon always had ideas for programs, but never formalized them until U.S. ladies medalist Mirai Nagasu asked him to create an exhibition program. Rippon took the time to answer some questions ahead of his appearance at the 2016 U.S. Figure Skating Championships.

**Before last year's championships, you were doubting yourself and your place in figure skating. Why was that?**

**Adam Rippon:** I was doubting myself because I had missed making the 2014 Olympic team. I was an alternate for the 2010 games so the next few years after that were dedicated to me making the 2014 team. When I skated at the U.S. Championships the year of the Olympics, I put so much pressure on myself to be perfect

and when I ended up not making the team, it was a huge hit to my confidence. I didn't feel like I belonged any more.

**You ended up winning the free skate and taking second overall last year. What changed? Has that renewed your passion?**

**AR:** What changed was that I was competing for myself. I worked so hard and put in so many hours so that when I got onto the middle of the ice and heard my music playing, I could just enjoy. I didn't worry about the result. I had to remind myself why I was skating in the first place. For as long as I could remember my only motivation was the Olympics so I had to go back and find out what was the real reason for me being on the ice. I finally realized it was just that skating was my passion and I truly love being out there. I loved the feeling after a long day of practice, and I loved the thrill of performing. I found joy in bettering myself everyday. Someone once told me that you have to enjoy the process and it wasn't until I was forced to think about what I truly enjoyed that I realized that the process was what I loved the most.

**What has planning choreography and programs for other skaters done for your own skating?**

**AR:** It's brought my own skating to a new level. It made me really focus in on weaknesses I had in my own skating. I also realized that I love working with others and when I'm done competing, working with other skaters is what I would love to do.

**You opened up about your sexuality in the latest issue of *Skating* magazine. Why did you decide to declare it publicly?**

**AR:** The article in *Skating* magazine was a piece on me and my best friend, Ashley Wagner. I decided to say something because I think we still live in a time where saying something still means something. I remember when I was younger, I read a lot of articles and saw a bunch of YouTube videos of others coming out. It really helped me a lot. I also said it because I have become really comfortable with who I am and I hope my story can help someone be confident in themselves, too.

**You said in that interview that you hope you're a role model not just for young figure skaters, but parents who might be concerned that their sons are figure skating. What kind of message do you hope your story brings?**

**AR:** I hope my story brings reassurance that if you work hard and set goals, anything is possible. It doesn't matter if you came from a small town in northeastern Pennsylvania. Never limit yourself and if you have the opportunity to go after something, take that opportunity. I also want to show parents of skaters and skaters themselves that you should always be yourself. Treat others the way you want to be treated and never lose your sense of humor. ■

*Be sure to cheer on Adam Rippon at the 2016 U.S. Figure Skating Championships in St. Paul. For more information, visit [www.2016uschampionships.com](http://www.2016uschampionships.com).*





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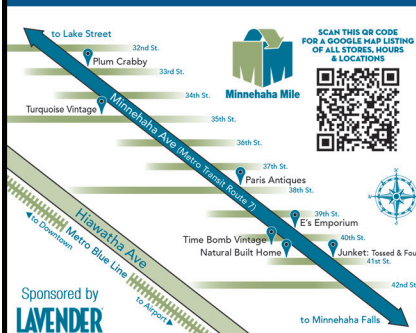


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**ON DOMINIC** (page 22) Enzo Tovare coat from Atmosfere, Green Grove Weavers scarf from MartinPatrick3, Bruno Piattelli tie from Atmosfere, L.O.G.G. shirt from H&M, Matias Denim pant from MartinPatrick3. **ON CODY** Joyrich USA turtleneck, Isaia jacket from MartinPatrick3, Max 'N Chester pants from Atmosfere, 3 Jäg Design necklace from Showroom, Leather Works Minnesota belt. **ON DOMINIC** Bruun & Stengade sweater from Atmosfere Matias Denim pants and Rodd & Gunn hat from MartinPatrick3, Post-Accessories necklace, Unrefined Jewelry bracelets from Showroom, Rille backpack from RilleRelay.com.





**ON CODY** Form Over Function coat and pants, Toscano turtleneck from Atmosfere, Hestra gloves from MartinPatrick3, East Fourth Street necklace from Hotrocity. **ON DOMINIC** (opposite page) Wings + Horns shirt from MartinPatrick3, Jeremiah vest from Atmosfere, Form Over Function skort, Byrd&Belle MacBook sleeve, Post-Accessories necklace from Showroom, Unrefined Jewelry bracelet.









**ON CODY** Form Over Function coat, Toscano turtleneck and Max 'N Chester pants from Atmosfere, Hestra gloves from MartinPatrick3. **ON DOMINIC** (opposite page) Form Over Function jacket and long tank, Diesel pants, The Hundreds shoes.





*Hair & Makeup **Kristine Loehrer***

*Style Assistant **David Almeida***

*Production Assistant **Lauren Kacher***

*Models **Cody & Dominic** from **Ignite***

*Special Thanks **Gabriel Hostetler, Tricia Khutoretsky***





Miss Richfield 1981's *The Christmas Cone of Silence*. Photo courtesy of Miss Richfield 1981

# TWO ICONS

## OF THE TWIN CITIES 1990s QUEER PERFORMANCE SCENE ARE BACK!

In the 1990s the GLBT performance scene was at its most vibrant. In the realm of gender-bending humor and exploration of sexual themes, it's as if a cloud had been lifted off the previous decade's grief and AIDS hysteria. In the '90s, a brilliant drag artist and a brilliant choreographer came into their own and attracted

audiences like bees to honey. These two are still going strong and now, for the holiday season, halfway through the century's second decade, it is fitting and thrilling to celebrate with two performances that feature them. Myron Johnson and Miss Richfield 1981 are swinging into madcap mania at 6th street and Hennepin

Avenue at the Cowles Center and Illusion Theater.

Myron Johnson looms as the most renown and widely acclaimed queer-focused choreographer the Twin Cities has ever produced. Major critics have placed him on par with the U.K.'s Matthew Bourne. He is a unique blend having studied at the Children's The-

atre and at Minnesota Dance Theater as a youngster and then onto mime in Paris in the 1970s where he was struck by the respect with which mimes and dancers were regarded.

When he returned to Minneapolis he started his own unique approach to performance which couldn't be neatly categorized. In



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founding Ballet of the Dolls, Myron shaped a close knit group of dancers, which would become legendary. They combined the purity of classical ballet, the choreographic pizzazz of Bob Fosse, and the irreverent wit of John Waters. These were consummate dancers and great comic actors in their own right.

It has been years since the Dolls presented their naughty spoof of *The Nutcracker* but after a long hiatus, Myron has returned to choreographing what is truly his very own bona fide classic, *Nutcracker (not so) Suite*. However, it's not with his Dolls of past years, but with young dancers of the James Sewell Ballet with whom he has never worked before. Myron was Sewell's first dance teacher.

Of the new dancers he says, "They're so fresh! Not hardened theater folks yet. Everything's new for them!" That said, Myron will be playing the role of the dandy uncle who gives his niece a Ken doll for Christmas. Dolls alumnus Kevin McCormick has returned from New York to reprise his role as the show's overbearing mother figure.

Myron Johnson's return to choreography and dance is eagerly awaited by his fan base from the '80s and '90s. He shares a bit about why he has been away. "For so many years I was not only focused and concerned about the performances but also running a theater. That became too much for me and I have had to take a much needed break to refresh and reboot. I miss working with the Dolls dancers everyday and I'm positive this is a first step into bringing the company back for more wild adventures."

Miss Richfield 1981 is the fairy godmother of the Twin Cities's new generation of drag artists. Think of her as Minnesota's Dame Edna. Over the years she would become

a national figure. She has also made her mark abroad. Miss R shares, "I spend the entire summer in Provincetown, Mass., which is beautiful and fun and very gay! This year also took me to Chicago, New York, San Diego, Rehoboth Beach, Del., as well as international travel with Atlantis Events to New Zealand, Australia, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam, and Hong Kong! This next year I'll be heading to Tahiti, as soon as I find out where that is!"

However, she adds "I love, love, love being home in the Twin Cities! My mom usually makes the show, along with a few other family members, and so many dear friends who have been with me along this amazing, fun and sweet life I'm blessed to enjoy!"

The show Miss R refers to is Illusion Theater's annual holiday tradition of which she is the recurring star. This year's solo performance addresses "forbidden topics." Miss R observes, "We are living in an age where we have more ways to communicate than ever before, but there's so much we are not allowed to say! I involve audience members in ways that allow them to express limited opinions that fit appropriately into the versions of the songs. It seems anything of a serious nature is off limits. You know, politics, religion, race, or anything else that's started a war is impolite for conversation. How are we going to solve the world's problems if we don't talk about these things?!" ■

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*Nutcracker (Not So) Suite*. Photo by Erik Saulitis





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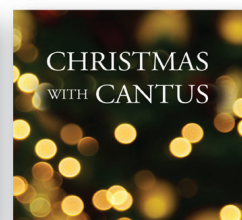
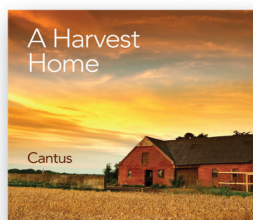
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There is always a blizzard of strong holiday shows in the Twin Cities area. Bear in mind that shows can be a unique gift, especially for those who don't ordinarily go to see them. So if you want to make sure your gift recipient will have a splendid time, here are some of the best bets.

## 1. **BLACK NATIVITY: A TRADITION OF LOVE AND LIGHT**

The nation's flagship African American theater company always has some of the best vocal talent around for their beloved annual Christmas show. It promotes healing, generosity, compassion, and inspiration for the coming year. By legendary Langston Hughes. Directed by Lou Bellamy. Music direction by Sanford Moore. Choreography by Uri Sands.

Dec. 3–30

Penumbra Theatre, 270 N. Kent St., St. Paul  
651-224-3180

[www.penumbra theatre.org](http://www.penumbra theatre.org)

## 2. **BOREALIS**

An enchantress of the Northern Lights named Borealis and a cast of colorful characters quest for the perfect Christmas gift and uncover a spiritual truth. The hologram system, lasers, and projection mapping used for the show are cutting edge. The international cast of circus arts performers are world class. Conceived and directed by Fernando Quevedo of Q Productions, Las Vegas.

Through Dec. 13

Mystic Lake Casino Hotel Ballroom, 2400 Mystic Lake Blvd. NW, Prior Lake  
952-445-9000

[www.mysticlake.com](http://www.mysticlake.com)

## 3. **A CHRISTMAS CAROL**

The Big G presents its annual production of Charles Dickens's iconic work, adapted for stage by Crispin Whittell. Joe Chvala returns to direct the story of miserly Ebenezer Scrooge played by the excellent J.C. Cutler. Chvala always brings forth the cheery vibrancy of the Christmas spirit while keeping the social consciousness of the "haves" vs. the "have nots" theme that permeates this story of a man's road to redemption.

Through Dec. 27

Guthrie Theater, 818 S. 2nd St., Minneapolis  
612-377-2224

[www.guthrietheater.org](http://www.guthrietheater.org)

## 4. **CHRISTMAS MY WAY, A SINATRA HOLIDAY BASH**

Old Blue Eyes is still hailed by countless people as the greatest male singer of the past 100 years. Frank Sinatra was a crooner beyond compare, renown for hits like "I've Got You Under My Skin" and "I Get a Kick Out of You." He was also a holiday fixture in households everywhere with his Christmas carol renditions. Four acclaimed singers exude the Sinatra spirit.

Through Jan. 17

Plymouth Playhouse, 2705 Annapolis Ln. N., Plymouth  
763-553-1600

[www.plymouthplayhouse.com](http://www.plymouthplayhouse.com)

## 5. **THE CHANUKAH GUEST**

An exploration of Chanukah traditions for people of all ages. Minnesota Jewish Theatre presents playwright Jenna Zark's adaptation of Eric A. Kimmel's book. A grandmother may be losing her vision and hearing but she still makes the best potato latkes in her village. On the first night of Chanukah an unexpected visitor knocks at her door. And then...

Dec. 6–22

Highland Park Community Center, 1978 Ford Pkwy, St. Paul  
651-647-4315

[www.mnjewishtheatre.org](http://www.mnjewishtheatre.org)

## 6. **CIRQUE DREAMS HOLIDAZE**

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Dec. 11–12

Orpheum Theatre, 910 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis  
800-982-2787

[www.HennepinTheatreTrust.org](http://www.HennepinTheatreTrust.org)



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December 22 - 23

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December 26 - 27

**Celtic Holiday Hooley**

*Warm fuzzies and holiday family fun*

December 29 - 30

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## 7. *A DON'T HUG ME CHRISTMAS CAROL*

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Through Jan. 3

New Century Theatre, 615 Hennepin Ave., City Center Street Level, Minneapolis  
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## 8. *JACOB MARLEY'S CHRISTMAS*

The sensational Dane Stauffer will play numerous characters in Bob Mula's solo play version of Charles Dickens' classic novella, *A Christmas Carol*. Various versions of the original book are typically on stages every holiday. But if you want a unique version with an actor with chops then Stauffer's performance is sure to delight. Directed by Richard Cook.

Dec. 9-20

Park Square Theatre's Boss Stage, 408 St. Peter St., St. Paul  
651-291-7005  
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## 9. *MIDNIGHT QUEER*

One Voice Mixed Chorus, the nation's largest LGBTQA chorus, rings in the holiday season with host Andrea Jenkins in a highly inclusive holiday performance. Traditions from Chanukah, Kwanzaa, Pagan Solstice, Diwali, New Years, and Christmas will uplift the audience. Composers included are Gabrielli, Vaughan Williams, Ysaye Barnwell, and PDQ Bach.

Dec. 19-20

Sundin Hall, Hamline University, 1531 Hewitt Ave., St. Paul  
651-224-4222  
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## 10. *A MIDWINTER NIGHT'S REVEL*

Amy Rummenie directs John Heimbuch's new play where ideas inspired by Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* are re-imagined in World War I. A changeling boy appears in a village and magic ensues. Central fairy characters are played by Neal Beckman, Heidi Fellner, and Daniel Joeck.

Dec. 4-30

Red Eye Theater, 15 W.14th St., Minneapolis  
800-838-3006  
[www.walkingshadowtheatre.org](http://www.walkingshadowtheatre.org)

## 11. *THE SOUND OF MUSIC*

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Through Jan. 2

Ordway Center, 345 Washington St., St. Paul  
651-224-4222  
[www.ordway.org](http://www.ordway.org)

## 12. *THE TRUMP WHO STOLE CHRISTMAS*

Pouf up your hair and see the region's legendary comedy theater, known for its legendary holiday shows, take on "The Donald." Perhaps these great comics will let us in on his secret. How can a man who has made the longest chain of insults and vitriol over such a sustained period of time still be the front-runner or close second for the Republican presidential nomination? Maybe BNW can clue us in.

Through Jan. 30

Brave New Workshop, 824 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis  
612-332-6620  
[www.bravenewworkshop.com](http://www.bravenewworkshop.com)

## 13. *UNDER THE MISTLETOE – A HOLIDAY ROMANCE WITH THE TWIN CITIES GAY MEN'S CHORUS*

Doesn't this sound hot! Keeping up with the times as they are: Kristen Bell's "Text Me a Merry Christmas." Meditate to the premiere of Matthew Coulton's "In dulci Jubilo." Enjoy a selection from TCGMC's holiday CD, *Joy*: Kevin Robinson's "Silver Bells." Delight in the musical theater classic, "We Need a Little Christmas" from Mame and the Streisand version of "Jingle Bells." Explore Justin Bieber's "Mistletoe" with Straight No Chaser.

Dec. 11-13

Ted Mann Concert Hall, 2128 4th St. S., West Bank U of M, Minneapolis  
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## 6. SEXY SHOWER CURTAIN

A perfect fun gift for the holidays. This unexpected graphic shower curtain will titillate the senses. And help get you up in the morning. Nude silhouettes strike clean contrasting poses in guy/guy and girl/girl pairings.

**Twin Cities Leather & Latte**

**\$24.50**

[www.twincitiesleather.com](http://www.twincitiesleather.com)

6



## 7. PERSONALIZED CHARM NECKLACE FROM JEWELRY BY CARI

Get personal for the holidays by creating a charm necklace that best fits your wearer's personality! Start with a chain and a center charm and build out from there. Available in silver, yellow gold, and rose gold.

**Max's**

Gemstone drops begin at \$35 and silver charms begin at \$45

[www.stylebymax.com](http://www.stylebymax.com)

7



## 8. DESIGNER LEGACY NECKLACE

Renowned fine jewelry designer Lika

Behar (NYC) creates an exquisite heirloom quality necklace. Handcrafted in 24K gold, diamonds, and oxidized sterling silver, this letter "M" pendant is a signature gift. An oxidized sterling silver 18" chain is included. Scheherazade will accept special orders for all letters of the alphabet.

**Scheherazade Jewelers**

**\$850**

[www.sjewelers.com](http://www.sjewelers.com)

8



9



## 9. UPSTYLED VINTAGE PLATES WITH NEW HIP ARTWORK BY CARTER AVERBECK FOR OMFORME

Vintage plates sometimes get little love, except when they're this cool; Carter Averbek takes these unloved pieces to a whole new realm of stylishness with new artwork re-fired onto each plate.

The designs range from campy vintage pin-up and gay cowboys to sleek modern interpretations of pop art and steampunk images.

**Omforme**

Dinner plates range from \$10-\$18/each or \$59/set of four

Complete table settings for four (dinner, bowl, salad, mug) for \$120-\$149

[www.omformedesign.com](http://www.omformedesign.com)



## 10. KEEP THE NORTH COLD

This year, make your gift purchase count.

In a new campaign to combat climate change through the power of education, Askov Finlayson will make a donation to Climate Generation: A Will Steger Legacy for each North product sold, which will support the education of one high school student to become a leader on climate change.

**Askov Finlayson**

**\$29**

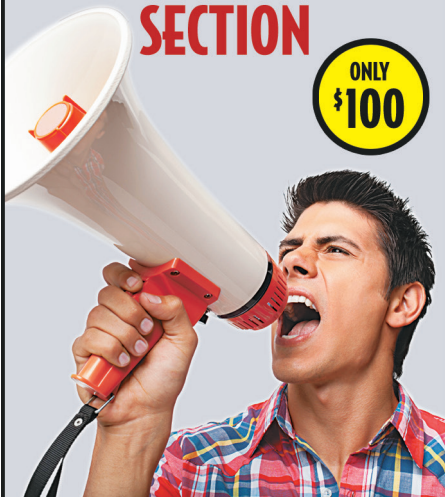
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10





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This space is never intentionally left blank. It serves as a space showing how much GLBT people love the automobile. In our readership area (the Twin Cities and across the Upper Midwest) we rely on them to get us where we need to be. We drive to work, to visit the one we're dating, to see our families and friends, and to get away from the drama of everyday life. As consumers, we are always interested in which automobiles would suit us best. Rather, what we should look for when we shop for one. Which vehicles fit us best? Since this issue is the Holiday Gift Guide, perhaps the gift of a new vehicle is in order. But, which one should you consider putting under your tree? Maybe under the tree outside of the house... How much should we expect to spend on one?

## 1. 2016 NISSAN VERSA NOTE

"IT'S [FILL IN YOUR FAVORITE HOLIDAY] TIME IN THE CITY": If you live near Loring Park or in Lowertown, chances are that you live in a place where parking is a premium. This calls for a vehicle that has plenty of room for at least that special someone in your life, your friends or pets, and enough space for shopping trips. This calls for a hatchback that will do well zipping around town and is comfortable for those trips to see your parents. I found that the Nissan Versa Note signs the right tune for city dwellers. It is small, peppy, efficient, and has the best rear seat room in its class. And, it's a hatchback! That says it all!

**2016 Nissan Versa Note SV – from \$16,330**

## 2. 2016 SUBARU OUTBACK

WHEN YOU HAVE THE BEST LIGHT DISPLAY ON THE BLOCK: You've had this house for a long time. Whether your neighbors like it or not, you put on quite a show of lights every year. The tree is perfectly trimmed, which does not help your neighbors, the neighborhood association and, maybe, your other half. The question is simple: how did you get the new tree home? If it did not go inside the cargo hold of your crossover, it rode on the roof. Sounds like a Subaru Outback would be the right call. It does everything you want it to do, and it's great in the winter, too!

**2016 Subaru Outback 2.5i Premium – \$30,885**

## 3. 2015 FORD EDGE SPORT

YOUR NAME IS PROBABLY BOB CRATCHIT...OR BETTY CRATCHIT: The Holidays could be the hardest time in several industries. You could be pulling crazy hours doing retail work. There could be some end-of-the-year project that must be done, or else. There's no vacation time available and you're cutting close to see the family. What would you drive? How about something exciting that will do well in the winter? The Ford Edge Sport has a turbocharged EcoBoost V6 that puts the fun back in a crossover. It is also big enough to haul the year's presents to every one of your relatives. It's a tough holiday season...play hard!

**2015 Ford Edge Sport – \$45,490**

## 4. 2016 VOLVO XC60

THE BONUS CHECK ARRIVED...AND IT'S AWESOME! You earned it through hard work, collaboration, and being the change agent from left field. What would you get to reward yourself? Big bonuses translate into big down payments...so, it means something equal to the reward. That Volvo XC60 looked pretty good the last time you saw it. It is safe, secure, advanced, and fun to drive. And, it's a Volvo! Well, there's more with a solid cabin, all-wheel drive, and turbocharged power. Most of all, it's a Volvo!

**2016 Volvo XC60 T5 AWD Platinum – \$49,480**

## 5. 2015 PORSCHE MACAN

FORGET THE BIG BOW...GIVE ME THE WORKS! You are a mover and shaker. You made every move to ensure success in your work, the enterprise, and your home. You also gave to the community with your time and money. How do you show success and humility at the same time? How about a Porsche Macan S? The badge speaks of your place in the world. Moreover, it is a vehicle that can get through winter with a mighty turbocharged V6 engine and all of the goodies you expect from Porsche. It is a reward for success...congratulations!

**2015 Porsche Macan S – \$63,005**

## 6. 2015 LEXUS RC F

NOW, WHAT ABOUT "MR. RIDE REVIEW?" You see, I'm the toughest one to shop for. When it comes to cars, I drive so many of them every year to scrutinize each one trying to find the conclusion of how to live with one. But...if you insist...there has been one that made my heart weak and my soul stirred. It is the Lexus RC F. This vehicle was never reviewed for this magazine, but I would have loved to have told you how this car was the best one I ever drove in my life. It still is...even after a turn in a Porsche, a McLaren, and a Lamborghini. That's all that matters really...

**2015 Lexus RC F – \$73,604**

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# HOLIDAY *Gift Guide*

[by Nell Gelhaus]

I am the worst gift-receiver. I hate being the center of attention, even for those few seconds of gift unwrapping. All eyes staring at me, anticipation building, expectant smiles as I squirm, sweat, blush... agh... moving on! I'm a *much* better gift-giver. So here, from least expensive to most, are my suggestions for presents that are sure to thrill your loved ones, unless of course they're introverts. In that case, tell them what they're getting ahead of time. Trust me, it helps.

## 1. 25, ADELE

Hello?! Do I really need to explain why this should be in everybody's stocking this year? With a release date of November 20, Adele's third studio album has universal appeal. It's not only perfect for that lesbian friend still crying over their ex, but also for your mom, your sister, your boss or your Uber driver.

**\$9.99. [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)**

## 2. FUN HOME BY ALISON BECHDEL

Bechdel's autobiography certainly isn't new, but with the Broadway version of this graphic novel winning the 2015 Tony Award for Best Musical, it's time for those who haven't read it yet to pick it up, and for those who have to revisit. The story details growing up with a closeted gay father, whose scandals overshadow his daughter's coming to terms with her own homosexuality. Despite the dark subject matter, it's an oftentimes funny read.

**Amazon, or locally at Magers & Quinn Booksellers  
\$8.89–11.21. [www.magersandquinn.com](http://www.magersandquinn.com)**

## 3. FLOCK OF CHICKS, GEESE, OR DUCKS

A donation in honor of your friend to Heifer International is ideal for the person who wants to change the world and rebuffs material goods. Purchasing the gift of animal for a family across the world provides them with nutrition, or the means to self-sustain. Flocks of baby birds start out at \$20, with the option of numerous other animals varying in price up to a cow at \$500. Let the holidays be a time to make a difference.

**\$20–500. [www.heifer.org](http://www.heifer.org)**

## 4. MRS. & MRS. PILLOWCASES

This elegant pillowcase set will bring a smile to the face of that couple who... oh, who I am kidding? My wife. My wife said she wanted these. So if they're on my holiday list, maybe they should be on yours?

**The Wallsticker Company on Etsy.com  
\$27.96. [www.etsy.com/shop/TheWallStickerComp](http://www.etsy.com/shop/TheWallStickerComp)**

## 5. POP YOUR PUP APPAREL

Who doesn't want to wear their dog's mug on a shirt? Submit a picture of a precious pet and the people at Pop Your Pup will prepare the pet's portrait in modern pop art à la Andy Warhol. Now say that sentence five times fast.

**\$39.99 – 62.99. [www.popyourpup.com](http://www.popyourpup.com)**

## 6. COOK'S HERB WREATH

Both functional and aesthetic, this aromatic handmade wreath features a collection of fresh herbs (bay leaf, sage, rosemary, and oregano) that will dry throughout the year for the use of your culinary enthusiast gift recipient. Gift this, and perhaps fancy dinner party invites will be your reward.

**\$49.95. [www.williams-sonoma.com](http://www.williams-sonoma.com)**

## 7. IBABY MONITOR

Is there something in the water? First marriage equality and now the baby boom! So your Babybjörn-wearing friends don't lose all their street cred riding around in their new minivans, present them with an iBaby monitor. This high-tech gadget captures baby's activity in Hi-Def, and even has social media integration to share baby's every move with over-eager grandparents.

**\$199.95. [www.apple.com](http://www.apple.com)**

## 8. FITBIT SURGE

Exercise is more fun with friends. The Surge and her cheaper sister devices encourage you to dare your friends to partake in challenges (via smartphone apps) that might just have you marching bedside in the waning hours of the night trying to outdo that crazy buddy from Colorado who somehow logs 30,000 steps per day.

**\$249.99. [www.target.com](http://www.target.com)**

## 9. 6-MONTH SUBSCRIPTION TO THE U.S. MICROBREWED BEER CLUB

Last year we featured a home brew kit in our *gift guide*, and after a year of pretending to enjoy your friend's crappy homemade beer it's time remind them what beer is supposed to taste like. Each month, twelve 12 oz. hand-crafted beers from two U.S. microbreweries will arrive by mail, along with a monthly newsletter detailing tasting notes, profiles, brewery histories, and suggested food pairings.

**\$27.95 a month plus \$15.00 S&H (\$257.70. I did the math. You're welcome.). [www.beermonthclub.com](http://www.beermonthclub.com)**

## 10. SUP ATX ADVENTURE PADDLEBOARD

Admit it. You tried to balance on your neighbor's paddleboard this summer. So did everyone else. Get them their own locally at Wai Nani Surf & Paddle. The Adventure board is stable and strong, perfect for beginners, and with a traction pad that allows for passengers and pets.

**\$1,135.00. [www.wainanisup.com](http://www.wainanisup.com)**

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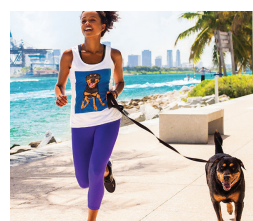


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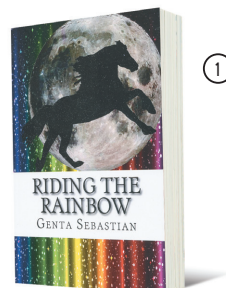




## 1. RIDING THE RAINBOW

Written for middle-graders, Sebastina's story follows Lilly, plump, awkward, and tormented, who lives in a rainbow family with two moms. Unbeknownst to her, the mute, unmoving girl across the classroom has two dads. The two become friends, but events from the past ensnare them. Literally. Clara is kidnapped, and Lily must save her life. Painful, funny; a swift-paced read.

**Genta Sebastina**  
Shadoc Publishing  
\$9.95

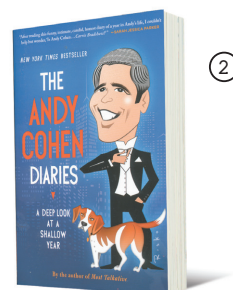


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## 2. THE ANDY COHEN DIARIES: A DEEP LOOK AT A SHALLOW YEAR

Anderson Cooper's pal and co-broadcaster, best-selling author, and late-night show über-personality Cohen regales the reader with an entire year's worth of his unique style and wit — not to mention the dog. Where Andy goes, so goes Wacha. Entertaining, irreverent, and lavishly illustrated.

**Andy Cohen**  
St. Martin's Griffin  
\$15.99

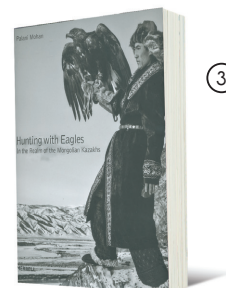


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## 3. HUNTING WITH EAGLES: IN THE REALM OF THE MONGOLIAN KAZAKHS

Spectacular black and white photographs illustrate this ancient and breathtaking hunting practice of the Mongolian Kazakhs and their golden eagles. Photographer Mohan spent four years following the nomads, noting that they raise the birds from eaglets and consider them part of their families. This large and lavish book serves its subject well.

**Palmi Mohan**  
Merrell  
\$50



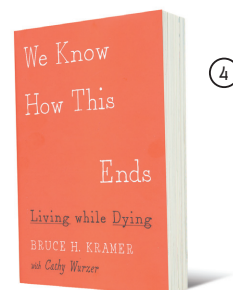
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## 4. WE KNOW HOW THIS ENDS: LIVING WITH DYING

How would any one of us deal with the devastating diagnosis of ALS (amyotrophic lateral sclerosis)? Bruce Kramer faced this life-defining moment, and, with journalist Cathy Wurzer, described his journey, refusing the term "legacy." "Legacy," he reminded, "is an act of ego, while teaching is an act of faith."

An important read for anyone who is going to die, as well as the rest of us.

**Bruce H. Kramer with Cathy Wurzer**  
University of Minnesota Press  
\$22.95

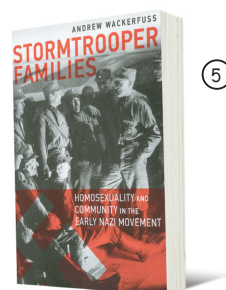


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## 5. STORMTROOPER FAMILIES: HOMOSEXUALITY AND COMMUNITY IN THE EARLY NAZI MOVEMENT

This highly researched book uses stormtrooper personnel records, autobiographies, heretofore unpublished memoirs, letters, and court records to explore the movement as evolving out of its local community and interpersonal relationships, examining how individual gay men lived in the Nazi movement and how fascist and antifascist politics were affected by the dialogue. A unique portrait of the private lives of the S.A.

**Andrew Wakerfuss**  
Harrington Park Press  
\$35



⑤

## 6. GAY BERLIN: BIRTHPLACE OF A MODERN IDENTITY

Beachy explains pre-Weimar Berlin in as detailed a fashion as did Darwin his finches, illuminating a city open to sexuality and experimentation in which the ongoing medical advances inform, even today, our concepts of sexual orientation and gay identity. Illustrations cover contemporary publications and theater, and prominent personalities including sexologist Magnus Hirschfeld and his lover Adolf Brand.

**Robert Beachy**  
Knopf  
\$27.95

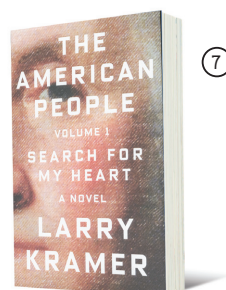


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## 7. THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, VOLUME I: SEARCH FOR MY HEART: A NOVEL

Founder of ACT UP, author of *Faggots* and *The Normal Heart*, Kramer's vast work in 775 pages brings the reader from prehistoric monkeys to the 1950s, with stops along the way for perceived national homosexual heroes, historical and fictional, including George Washington, Ben Franklin, Abraham Lincoln, Lewis and Clark, and Sam Clemens, the latter having created "the country's first gay rock stars."

**Larry Kramer**  
Farrar, Straus and Giroux  
\$40

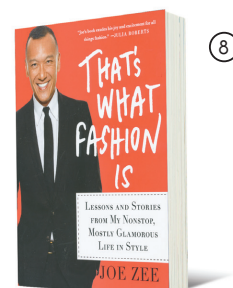


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## 8. THAT'S WHAT FASHION IS: LESSONS AND STORIES FROM MY NONSTOP, MOSTLY GLAMOROUS LIFE IN STYLE

Zee is the editor of Yahoo! Style, former creative director of *Elle* magazine and co-host of talk show *FABLife*. Starting with Annie Leibovitz styling shoots for *Vanity Fair*, Joe Zee knows intimately — and reveals here — just what it takes to make style happen. First-person stories, fashion tips from the expert, wrapped in a wild array of photos, this is a must have volume.

**Joe Zee**  
Thomas Dunne Books  
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⑧



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## RESERVE THE DATE

### Quorum's Holiday Party

December 8 • 6-8:30pm

LUSH • 990 Central Ave. NE, Minneapolis

Please join us for a Holiday Cheer as we celebrate the past year, and help us look ahead to Quorum's bright future. Please make sure to bring lots of business cards as this is a wonderful evening for networking. Exhibitor tables will be available at this event to promote your business or organization. We'll also hold a brief meeting to update you on Quorum as well as elections of new members to Quorum's Board of Directors, and the election of Board Officers. For sponsorship opportunities at this event, or if your business would like to offer a door prize to promote your business for this event please contact [events@twincitiesquorum.com](mailto:events@twincitiesquorum.com). All are welcome to attend the celebration! Further details available soon.

## Quorum Coffee

December 4 • 7:30-9am

Nicollet Diner • 1428 Nicollet Ave., Minneapolis

Join your fellow early risers and get some quality networking in before you even begin your workday! Start the day off right with the most important meal of the day, make great new connections, and talk about what you are up to! You'll also be able to introduce your business and share news with everyone at the coffee. Are you new to Quorum Coffee? These networking events are a casual fun way to increase your networks, build your business and meet other community business leaders. Food and coffee will be available for purchase. Be sure to bring business cards!

## Become a Quorum Member

Members of Quorum enjoy several benefits, including access to a plethora of networking events and signature event discounts, business directory listing and event-based advertising opportunities, Workplace Alliance event participation, and the ability to find business at the national level via certification with the NGLCC. For more information, visit [www.twincitiesquorum.com/membership](http://www.twincitiesquorum.com/membership).

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# HOLIDAY *Gift Guide*

[by Steve Lenius]

## 1. SPORTSHEET BONDAGE BED SHEET SET BY SPORTSHEETS

Four neoprene cuffs can be secured anywhere on the velvety sheet using Velcro pads. Move your partner and the pads quickly and easily into new positions — imagine the possibilities! Instructional DVD included. Fits full and queen mattresses. Also available for king mattresses.

**Smitten Kitten**

**\$229.99**

[www.smittenkittenonline.com](http://www.smittenkittenonline.com)

## 2. BONDAGE BELT BY AXOVUS

Wear it as a great-looking leather belt. Then take it off and — surprise! — it instantly becomes a pair of cuffs for wrists or ankles. Just loop the belt through the rectangular rings and tighten the buckle. Fashionable and practical. Available in sizes small, medium, and large.

**Smitten Kitten**

**\$49.99**

[www.smittenkittenonline.com](http://www.smittenkittenonline.com)

## 3. SAMURAI NEOPRENE HARNESS BY CELLBLOCK 13

Wear bare-chested as a harness or over a shirt as suspenders. Choose from white, red, or blue. Create a singlet by pairing with the matching Samurai Neoprene Jock.

**Rainbow Road**

**\$56**

[www.rainbowrd.com](http://www.rainbowrd.com)

## 4. EVERYTHING BAR SOAP BY DAS BOOM INDUSTRIES

Unique fragrances include Bourbon County (bourbon and leather), Detroit (tobacco, musk, and motor oil) and three others. Proudly made in downtown Los Angeles. Everything body wash, Everywhere lotion, and Body Brick soap-infused sponge also available.

**Rainbow Road**

**\$15**

[www.rainbowrd.com](http://www.rainbowrd.com)

## 5. STAINLESS STEEL SPHERICAL CUFFS BY SINOVELTIES

Beautiful, sleek design. Cuffs arms with wrists crossed. Includes lock, key, and soft storage pouch.

**Twin Cities Leather & Latte**

**\$64**

[www.twincitiesleather.com](http://www.twincitiesleather.com)

## 6. LEATHER ROLL-ON FRAGRANCE BY LEATHERSTOCK

A perfect stocking stuffer for anyone who loves the smell of leather.

**Twin Cities Leather & Latte**

**\$18.25**

[www.twincitiesleather.com](http://www.twincitiesleather.com)

## 7. SHORT SLEEVE OFFICER SHIRT BY INSEAM CLOTHING

Inseam's best-selling shirt has an engineered fit that follows the curve and angles of your body. Two flapped pockets on the front and an epaulet on each shoulder. Sewn in small batches in the USA.

**\$69.50**

[www.inseamclothing.com](http://www.inseamclothing.com)

## 8. J2 PANT BY INSEAM CLOTHING

Low-rise fit with a slight taper down the leg. Nylon webbing stripe runs down the side of each leg. Two-button fly, two zippered rear pockets. Designed and sewn in the USA.

**\$98**

[www.inseamclothing.com](http://www.inseamclothing.com)

## 9. LAND OF 10,000 LOVES: A HISTORY OF QUEER MINNESOTA BY STEWART VAN CLEVE

An amazing book. Young people will enjoy reading about Minnesota's GLBT history; those who lived some (or much) of this history will enjoy the memories. Lavishly illustrated.

**University of Minnesota Press**

**\$24.95.**

[www.upress.umn.edu](http://www.upress.umn.edu)

## 10. TOM OF FINLAND CONDOMS BY ONE

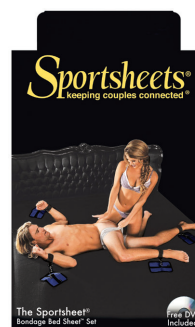
Special-edition condoms with foils featuring 24 of Tom's original, iconic drawings. Packaged in ONE's signature round wrappers. Choose Super Sensitive or Legend styles.

A portion of all sales support Tom of Finland Foundation in its mission to preserve the artist's legacy and protect the work and careers of erotic artists worldwide.

**12-pack, \$11.99; 24-pack, \$16.99.**

[www.onecondoms.com/tof](http://www.onecondoms.com/tof)

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## 1. PATRICK NAGEL GALLERY REVERSE JACKET

Those who know me are well aware of my love for loud graphic prints. Not only is this Patrick Nagel jacket a statement piece, it's also reversible, changing to a solid navy color for going incognito.

**Joyrich**  
\$260

[www.joyrichstore.com](http://www.joyrichstore.com)

## 2. MINIMALIST STAR WARS POSTERS

As a die-hard *Star Wars* fan, I love that these posters, by designer Justin Van Genderen, allow me to nerd out on my walls with what might appear to be a finer piece of art to an unenlightened eye.

**2046 Design**  
\$45 Each

[www.2046design.com](http://www.2046design.com)

## 3. FUCKIT NECKLACE

Sometimes you gotta let 'em know how you feel. This necklace is made with recycled sandblasted acrylic, made locally by Jeri Mack of Objects & Subjects. An affordable, fun gift for someone you feel should give a few less F's.

**Objects & Subjects**  
\$30

[www.hotrocit.com](http://www.hotrocit.com)

## 4. TERRAIN FLAT RING

Made from recycled brass and mined using safe and environmentally conscious practices, East Fourth Street makes jewelry with a true dedication to sustainable design. Not to mention from a purely aesthetic angle, this ring is totally badass.

**East Fourth Street**  
\$116

[www.eastfourthstreet.com](http://www.eastfourthstreet.com)

## 5. CEMENT SODA PLANTER

This adorable cement planter puts a positive spin on the necessary evil that is plastic soda bottles. Molded from my high-fructose enemy, this is a great gift for your more domestic friends. Made in Minneapolis.

**Winsome**  
\$30

[www.winsomegoods.com](http://www.winsomegoods.com)

## 6. ARTSHARE MEMBERSHIP

Got loved ones with a taste for performing arts? For a recurring monthly payment, you get access to any performance by any of the fifteen resident companies at any time. If there's an open seat, it's yours. It's like the Netflix for performing arts.

**The Southern Theater**  
\$12/month for students, \$48/season  
[www.southerntheater.org](http://www.southerntheater.org)

## 7. TEROFORMA WHISKY STONES MAX

If your bestie is as much of a whiskey snob as I am, head over to MartinPatrick3 and buy them a whiskey lover's most appreciated beverage accessory. Manufactured in Vermont, by the oldest soapstone workshop in the U.S.

**MartinPatrick3**  
\$22

[www.martinpatrick3.com](http://www.martinpatrick3.com)







This year, my wish list is throwing caution to the wind. My theme for this year: Embrace Your Camp. Are you a secret *Dr. Who* fan? Are you ashamed to admit that you actually kind of like that favorite of white college girls everywhere, Taylor Swift? It's time to come out of the closet and ask for what it is you really want to find under the tree. I'm embracing the fact that I probably fit almost every stereotype for my demographic imaginable, and my letter to Santa shows it. Dear Santa, I'm a young, gay male and this year for Christmas, I want...

## 1. LOUIS-05 VOLUME SET

E. Lawrence, Ltd. is an Atlanta-based purveyor of leather-bound books and handmade parchment-bound books. These books (which are actual books, just look inside to discover what you'd be reading) are available with countless designs across their spines. Whether you gravitate to Chanel or Dior, to shoes or handbags, E. Lawrence has you covered. As a self-confessed Vuitton handbag fanatic, I have to have these tomes sitting on my shelf.

**Habitation Furnishing + Design**

**\$189**

[www.habitationdesign.com](http://www.habitationdesign.com)

## 2. BECOMING BEYONCÉ: THE UNTOLD STORY

BY J. RANDY TARABORRELLI

In the unauthorized biography, author J. Randy Taraborrelli interviews numerous people within the international superstar's inner circle. Now, really?

An unauthorized biography? There's nothing exciting about that. Except this is the first comprehensive biography ever published about America's favorite living pop icon, Beyoncé, and it's written by *New York Times* best-selling biographer J. Randy Taraborrelli, who has written critically acclaimed biographies for everyone from Cher to Diana Ross, and Marilyn Monroe to Elizabeth Taylor. When I first heard this biography was being released, I may have squealed a little. And now it's finally in stores.

**Available at all major retailers**

**\$28**

## 3. ORGANIC MALE SKINCARE

Keep all the right spots looking good with this line of skincare products from Organic Male OM4. All skincare collections — the Dry/Mature Collection, Normal/Combination Collection, Sensitive Collection, and Oily Collection — contain a face wash, mineral splash, repair serum, and calming moisturizer.

[www.om4men.com](http://www.om4men.com)

## 4. CHRISTMAS QUEENS, VARIOUS ARTISTS

I'm that freak who has enough holiday spirit to make up for any Scrooges in the room. At the time of writing, my Spotify playlist for the season boasts 941 songs (a whopping 53 hours of Christmas cheer), and is likely to grow.

I can't get enough. Along with the classics (Bing Crosby, Barbra Streisand) and current chart toppers (Destiny's Child, Mariah Carey), I love to throw in some campy tunes just to mix it up. And who is more perfect to up the camp factor than a group of drag queens? To kick off the holiday season, numerous contestants of *RuPaul's Drag Race* partnered for a new compilation album, *Christmas Queens*. This collection of holiday classics and destined-to-be classics such as "Slay Bells" and "A Very Cozby Christmas" would make the perfect gift for any *Drag Race* fan, like me.

**Available on Amazon and iTunes**

**\$9.99**

## 5. VENETIAN CHIC AFTERSHAVE CANDLE

IN BLACK AND GOLD CHEVRON

"Aftershave" is a scent that doesn't sound that appealing, but trust me. If you love when a man walks by and you think *dang, he smelled amazing*, then you're going to want this candle. Light the wick, curl up with a nice throw, turn on Netflix, and allow the citrusy scent to lull you into a false sense of having a boyfriend curled up next to you. #ChronicallySingle

**Ardan Living**

**\$28**

[www.thompsonferrier.com](http://www.thompsonferrier.com)

## 6. DON'T PANIC THROW

Behind every gay man is a diva he adores. Who doesn't love the indomitable Eartha Kitt? But there's a side to Kitt only her daughter, Kitt Shapiro, knew, and she's launched a lifestyle brand called Simply Eartha to share it. Cuddle up and relax with this comfy cozy throw made from recycled t-shirts. Eartha Kitt's handwritten words and the calming silver gray color will help set the mood, indoors or out. Bonus: A portion of all proceeds goes to fight colon cancer, to which Eartha succumbed in 2008.

**Simply Eartha**

**\$180**

[www.simplyeartha.com](http://www.simplyeartha.com)







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  - Live holiday music
  - Cookies and hot beverages
- 10:00 a.m. - Polar Express free movie (ICON)
- 12:00 p.m. - Christmas Story free movie (ICON)



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DECEMBER 3RD & 4TH  
10 AM - 8 PM





# HOLIDAY *Gift Guide*

[by Bradley Traynor]

## 1. CLASSPASS

The best thing you can gift yourself or a friend this holiday season is the gift of sweat. What better way to burn the Christmas calories away than with unlimited spin, yoga, pilates, and circuit training classes at one of a number of local gyms and fitness fiestas? All for one low monthly fee. ClassPass is perfect for the workout obsessed person on your list who also has commitment issues.

**\$89/month**

[www.classpass.com](http://www.classpass.com)

## 2. DOROTHY IN THE STREETS, BLANCHE IN THE SHEETS T-SHIRT

Have a friend of Dorothy (Blanche, Rose, and Sophia) in your life? Get them this T-shirt! I've been wearing it for months. It's a certified crowd favorite. Strangers will walk up to the wearer and yell, "Picture it" or "Shady Pines, Ma" without warning. Pay homage to the patron saints of gay men everywhere. Just don't forget to make sure the card attached says, "Thank you for being a friend."

**ClydePetersen on Etsy**

**\$22**

[www.etsy.com/shop/ClydePetersen](http://www.etsy.com/shop/ClydePetersen)

## 3. SCOTTISH TOFFEE

Every time I do a gift guide, I make sure to include the gift of all gifts. That's right, Scottish tablet.

What is tablet, you ask, and why is it Scottish? Think toffee times a bajillion. Rich, buttery, melt-in-your-mouth confection perfection. Frankly, if ever the nectar of the gods was turned into candy, it would taste like Scottish tablet. Heart Hebrides of Scotland makes the most sinfully delicious toffee you're ever likely to taste. And for a few pounds (both of the wallet and waist-size variety) they'll send you a delicious little gift box all the way from the Isle of Barra.

**Hebridean Toffee**

**£13.99**

[www.hebrideantoffeecompany.com](http://www.hebrideantoffeecompany.com)

## 4. INSTACART EXPRESS

Life is short, who wants to spend it in the grocery store? Let someone else do the shopping and give the gift of grocery delivery this year. Instacart changed my life. No joke. In just a few clicks,

you can have your week's worth of groceries hand-delivered from your favorite local retailer right to your front door. All for in-store pricing, plus a small delivery fee. Unless that is, you give the gift of Express membership. For just under a hundred bucks, you get a year's worth of free delivery on all orders over \$35. Shut up and take my money!

**\$99/year**

[www.instacart.com/store/express](http://www.instacart.com/store/express)

## 5. MAKE 'EM LAUGH: SHORT-TERM MEMORIES OF LONGTIME FRIENDS BY DEBBIE REYNOLDS AND DORIAN HANNAWAY

If there's an old queen or movie buff in your life, plop this little gem in their stocking. In fact, plop any one of Debbie Reynolds' books in their stocking. Guaranteed "favorite gift" status every time. The fastfooted, Academy Award-nominated mother of Princess Leia is a gifted storyteller. The old broad isn't afraid to dish the gossip and wax fantastic on the golden age of Hollywood. Pro tip: Gift the audio version of the book and you get the added bonus of listening to Ms. Reynolds read every word herself.

**Amazon**

**\$25.99**

[www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)

## 6. STAR WARS DARTH VADER ONESIE

Everybody's got a *Star Wars* nerd on their list. Not every *Star Wars* nerd gets to say they head to bed every night dressed as Darth Vader. Until you send them the nerdiest (awesomest) adult onesie in the world. Pick up one for yourself and the two of you can head to *Star Wars: The Force Awakens* in matching onesies. In any other circumstance I would advise against ever leaving your house or being seen in public wearing zip-up jammies, but this is *Star Wars* we're talking about, people.

**Available at major retailers**

## 7. THE BURGER AT PARLOUR / GIFT CARDS

I've spent many a Saturday night over the last few years surveying the Minnesota burger landscape. Never, almost ever, have I had a burger quite like the double cheeseburger at Parlour. Trust, dear reader, that it lives up gloriously to all the hype. You've heard it's the best. It is, at the very least, among the best bites of patty porn I've ever stuffed in my piehole. Giving the gift of a Parlour burger, then, is a sure way to win Christmas, Hanukkah, or any damned day of the year, holy or not, for which you so choose. And while you're there picking up a gift card, go ahead and order the burger.

**\$25/\$50/\$100**

[www.boroughmpls.com](http://www.boroughmpls.com)

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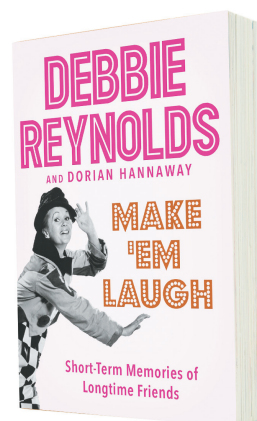


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\*\*Not applicable during Xcel Energy Center events

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 242 West 7th Street | Saint Paul, MN 55102 | 651.222.3100

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# HOLIDAY *Gift Guide*

[by Joy Summers]

## 1. THE SHINING KNIFE RACK

All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy. Keep your wit and knives sharp with this badass knife rack. Makes me happy every time I reach for my Wüsthof.

**Bo Winston on Etsy**

**\$68.95**

[www.etsy.com/shop/BoWinston](http://www.etsy.com/shop/BoWinston)

## 2. TATTERSALL AQUAVIT

Every holiday bar should be stocked with the basics, but a bottle of this cocktail-friendly, unique spirit will round out every host's selection. I love mixing it with just a bit of honey simple syrup and a splash of soda water.

**Tattersall Distilling (available at Twin Cities area liquor stores like South Lyndale Liquors)**

**\$20-25**

[www.tattersalldistilling.com](http://www.tattersalldistilling.com)

## 3. LOCAL CRATE

The holidays are busy, and this year we've got a new baby in the house. So, I'm tired. Way, nearly blind tired. Plus, I'm freaking out on getting everybody a nutritious meal. Enter Local Crate. Local food, recipes from wildly talented local chefs, pulled together by an efficient team. These are great for the local food fan, burgeoning cook — or anyone with a new baby! (Hint? Hint. Hint.)

**\$54/approx. 2 meals per week**

[www.localcrate.meals.com](http://www.localcrate.meals.com)

## 4. THE NEW MEDITERRANEAN TABLE

**BY SAMEH WADI**

Have you been to Saffron lately? Not only is Wadi killing it at Lyn/Lake's World Street Kitchen and working on a gourmet ice cream shop (MilkJam), but the food at his first restaurant is unbelievably better than ever. Want to take a taste of what he cooks at home? This gorgeous, easy-to-follow book makes it possible.

**Available at major retailers and Wadi's Saffron restaurant.**

**\$28**

[www.saffronmpls.com](http://www.saffronmpls.com)

## 5. RED TABLE MEATS

Ages in the making (see what I did there?). Mike Phillips' cured meats are the best on the market and now available all over the Twin Cities. Plus, the visual of showing up to a party with your sausage out is always hilarious.

**France 44/St. Paul Cheese Shop**

**Around \$10**

[www.redtablemeatco.com](http://www.redtablemeatco.com)

## 6. TRINITY BITTERS

There is nothing sadder than reaching the bottom of a Bittercube bitters bottle, and it happens with a shocking amount of frequency in my house. It's hard to pick a favorite flavor, that's why I'm so smitten with the Trinity bottle. Plus, it's huge!

**Golden Fig**

**\$22**

[www.bittercube.com](http://www.bittercube.com)

## 7. BLUE HENN TONIC

I have a friend who makes her own tonic for gin and tonics. Although she and I got properly tossed on a few before-noon versions of the drink this year, I find that incredibly annoying.

I don't make, I consume (at least when it comes to things behind the bar). This is by far the best store-bought tonic I've sampled; it's even lovely without the booze, over ice with club soda. Plus, it's locally made.

**Solo Vino (other outlets)**

**\$25**

[www.bluehenn.com](http://www.bluehenn.com)



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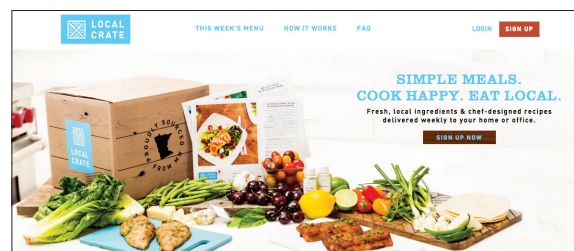
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15% Off 3+ Bottles of Liquor\*

12% Off 3+ 6 Packs of Beer\*

\*Not valid on green tag/sale priced items, coupon items, and/or with other promotions. While supplies last.

## HOLIDAY WINE SALE

December 2-16

15% Off 3-5 Bottles\*

20% Off 6-11 Bottles\*

25% Off 12+ Bottles\*

\*Not valid on green tag/sale priced items, coupon items, and/or with other promotions. While supplies last.

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# A Bar Fit For a Queen

## 19 Bar Rules in Minneapolis!

February 6 was the 63rd anniversary of Queen Elizabeth II's accession to the throne of Great Britain in 1952, and on September 9, 2015, she became the longest reigning British monarch in history. As well, in 2015, the local 19 bar — with an iconic large 1960s portrait of the Queen having graced its wall for decades — marked the 63rd anniversary of the venerable establishment, whose entire history coincides with the monarch's reign, along with the 23rd anniversary of Gary Hallberg's owning the business.

In 1952, life partners Everett Stoltz and George Koch opened a predominantly gay bar at 19 West 15th Street (hence the bar's name) in Minneapolis — a shrewd move given its location in the heart of what has been a gay enclave in the Loring Park neighborhood for decades. For five decades, the 19 had only a 3.2 ("weak") beer license.

Hallberg, who purchased the 19 on May 8, 1992, has owned the bar for a third of its history. In several stages, he nearly doubled the bar's space by expanding into what had been the adjacent Loring Cleaners. He also built a popular patio, which is heated in the winter, at the back of the bar. In 2003, he obtained a license to serve full liquor and strong beer, which brought a host of new customers who wanted more than 3.2 beer.

Today, the 19 continues the friendly ambience of its 63 years as a neighborhood GLBT bar. Most times, you'll find folks at three state-of-the-art pool tables (75 cents — what a bargain!) or two dartboards. Re-

cently, a pinball machine was added.

Hallberg says, "We're very proud to be the oldest GLBT bar in the Twin Cities, and one of the oldest — if not the oldest — in the country." ■



The iconic photo of Queen Elizabeth II at the 19 Bar. Photo by George Holdgrafer

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**Markus VonLenoxxx**  
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Supporters and staff clown around on a “Hard Hat” tour of Clare Terrace. The Robbinsdale community has been very welcoming. Photo courtesy of Clare Housing

# Long-Term Homeless People Living with HIV/AIDS Find A New Home at Clare Terrace

**Join them for their “House Warming” on December 1, World AIDS Day.**

Imagine being homeless. With no job, and no easy access to food, you’re not sure where you’ll rest your head tonight. Now imagine you also have HIV. This is the reality that faces many men, women, and children living with and affected by HIV in Minnesota tonight.

The good news is, on December 1, World AIDS Day, Clare Terrace will open with a house warming celebration in Robbinsdale, Minnesota.

Once open, this new apartment building will end homelessness for 36 men and women living with HIV/AIDS. Many of those new residents will be handed the key to their new home on December 2.

Clare Housing is a nonprofit organization that provides a range of affordable, supportive housing for people living in poverty and with HIV. Although the importance of housing isn’t immediately apparent when you think of fighting the HIV epidemic, when you look at the numbers, you quickly realize the power of supportive housing as a strategy to help





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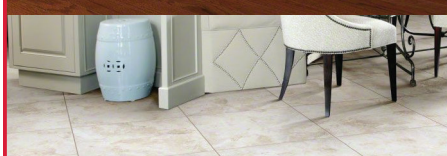
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(Clockwise from left) An exterior shot of the new Clare Terrace take on North France Avenue. Thoughtful details: Clare Terrace has beautiful full-sized windows in stairwells to encourage residents to get exercise by using them. Clare Housing leaders pose for a hard hat selfie with project collaborators. A rendering of Clare Terrace, set to open on World AIDS Day, December 1, in Robbinsdale, Minn. Terrace will provide affordable, supportive housing for 36 people affected by HIV/AIDS. Photos courtesy of Clare Housing

people get healthy and end the spread of HIV.

Within the state of Minnesota only 63 percent of individuals living with HIV are virally suppressed. Virally suppressed means that someone with HIV has no detectable HIV in their blood stream. Still more are not even aware that they're HIV positive. Knowing your status, maintaining treatment and an undetectable level of HIV improves individual health and reduces the likelihood of HIV transmission.

How many Clare Housing residents are virally suppressed? **Ninety-one percent.** That's nearly 30 percent more than the state average. Supportive housing is making a huge impact. It's helping people take control of their lives and get healthy.

As one Clare Housing resident, Epstein, recently wrote after living at Clare Housing, the day comes... "When suddenly you realize that you're no longer just surviving one day to the next; rather you're able to plan for the next season, the next year, and even further. That's the benefit of healing: the security of knowing you have the luxury of looking forward into your own future and being able to plan what to do with it."

Living at Clare Housing enables many residents to get their future back. That's a powerful thing, and it's something worth celebrating. That's why on December 1, World AIDS Day, from 4 to 7 p.m., Clare Housing is

holding a house warming celebration for Clare Terrace in Robbinsdale.

The event is free and open to the public. There will be a short program at 4:30 p.m. where the supporters that made the new apartment building possible will give brief remarks. Following the program, attendees will get the chance to tour the completed terrace while sipping warm drinks and enjoying light refreshments.

Attendees are encouraged to bring non-perishable food items. Food donations will stock the shelves of the men and women who will be moving into Clare Terrace during the month of December.

Over 115 people have applied to live at Clare Terrace. Many have been sleeping rough on the street, couch surfing with friends, or staying overnight at homeless shelters. One individual who will be moving in has been on Clare Housing's waiting list for 5 years — waiting and waiting for the opportunity to access affordable supportive housing.

After Clare Terrace opens, nearly 200 individuals will still remain on Clare Housing's waiting list. If you'd like to get involved, please register to attend the house warming event at [www.clarehousing.org/terrace](http://www.clarehousing.org/terrace), or visit the website to learn more about how you can help Clare Housing achieve its vision of an AIDS-free world through equitable access to housing and healthcare. ■



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University of Minnesota  
Minneapolis, MN  
(612) 625-3500  
[www.radiok.org](http://www.radiok.org)

### PERFORMING ARTS

#### **CANTUS**

"The premier men's vocal ensemble in the United States." – Fanfare Magazine

Minneapolis, MN  
(612) 435-0055  
[www.cantussings.org](http://www.cantussings.org)

#### **Cowles Center for Dance and Performing Arts**

The Cowles Center is the Twin Cities' flagship for the creation, performance, education, celebration of dance.

528 Hennepin Ave.  
Minneapolis, MN  
[www.thecowlescenter.org](http://www.thecowlescenter.org)

#### **Guthrie Theater**

A nationally acclaimed cultural destination, home to three unique theaters, dining, tours, classes and more.

818 S. 2nd St.  
Minneapolis, MN  
(612) 377-2224  
[www.guthrietheater.org](http://www.guthrietheater.org)

#### **Hennepin Theatre Trust**

Orpheum, State, Pantages and New Century Theatres

Twin Cities' best live entertainment: Broadway shows, music concerts, comedy, dance and more!  
Minneapolis, MN  
1-800-982-2787  
[www.HennepinTheatreTrust.org](http://www.HennepinTheatreTrust.org)

#### **History Theatre**

Plays and musicals telling Minnesota stories by Minnesota artists for Minnesota audiences.

30 E. 10th St.  
St. Paul, MN  
(651) 292-4323  
[www.HistoryTheatre.com](http://www.HistoryTheatre.com)

#### **Illusion Theater**

Nationally renowned for developing artists and new work while sparking conversation about challenging human issues.

528 Hennepin Ave., 8th Fl.  
Minneapolis, MN  
(612) 339-4944  
[www.illusiontheater.org](http://www.illusiontheater.org)



## COMMUNITY CONNECTION

### Jungle Theater

Professional theater producing contemporary and classic works in an intimate setting in the Lynlake neighborhood.  
2951 Lyndale Ave. S. Minneapolis, MN  
(612) 822-7063  
[www.JungleTheater.com](http://www.JungleTheater.com)

### Minnesota Orchestra

Enriching, inspiring and serving our community as a symphony orchestra internationally recognized for artistic excellence.  
1111 Nicollet Mall  
Minneapolis, MN  
(612) 371-5656  
(800) 292-4141  
[www.minnesotaorchestra.org](http://www.minnesotaorchestra.org)

### Mixed Blood Theatre

Professional, multiracial company, promotes cultural pluralism through artistic excellence and Radical Hospitality no-cost admission program.  
1501 S. 4th St.  
Minneapolis, MN  
(612) 338-0937  
[www.mixedblood.com](http://www.mixedblood.com)

### Northrop - University of Minnesota

An epicenter of discovery and transformation celebrating innovation in the arts, performance, and academics.  
84 Church St. SE  
Minneapolis, MN 55414  
(612) 625-6600  
[northrop.umn.edu](http://northrop.umn.edu)

### One Voice

Minnesota's LGBT Chorus. Building community and creating social change by lifting our voices in song.  
732 Holly Ave., Ste. Q  
St. Paul, MN  
(651) 298-1954  
[www.onevoicemn.org](http://www.onevoicemn.org)

### Ordway Center for the Performing Arts

Hosting, presenting, and creating performing arts and educational programs that enrich diverse audiences.  
345 Washington St.  
St. Paul, MN  
(651) 224-4222  
[www.ordway.org](http://www.ordway.org)

### Phoenix Theater

Comedy, Tragedy, and the stuff in between. Offers theater, music, late night events, and more.  
2605 Hennepin Ave.  
Minneapolis, MN 55408  
(612) 377-2285  
[www.phoenixtheatempls.org](http://www.phoenixtheatempls.org)

### The Minnesota Opera

MN Opera invites you to enjoy 20% off any non-opening performance. Use code **lavender20**.  
620 North First Street  
Minneapolis, MN 55401  
612-333-6669  
[mnopera.org](http://mnopera.org)

### Twin Cities Gay Men's Chorus

An award-winning chorus that builds community through music and offers entertainment worth coming out for!  
528 Hennepin Ave., Suite 307  
Minneapolis, MN  
(612) 339-SONG (7664)  
[chorus@tcgmc.org](mailto:chorus@tcgmc.org)  
[www.tcgmc.org](http://www.tcgmc.org)

### POLITICS & RIGHTS

#### Human Rights Campaign

Advocates for all GLBT Americans, mobilizes grassroots action, invests strategically to elect fair-minded individuals.  
P.O. Box 50608  
Minneapolis, MN  
[www.twincities.hrc.org](http://www.twincities.hrc.org)  
[www.hrc.org](http://www.hrc.org)

#### OutFront Minnesota

Delivering programs/services in the area of public policy, anti-violence, education, training and law.  
310 E. 38th St., Ste. 204  
Minneapolis, MN  
(612) 822-0127  
[www.outfront.org](http://www.outfront.org)

### PRIDE

#### Twin Cities Pride

The third-largest national Pride celebration seeks sponsors, volunteers, and board members. Contact us today.  
2021 E. Hennepin Ave., Ste. 460  
Minneapolis, MN  
(612) 255-3260  
[www.tcpide.org](http://www.tcpide.org)

### RELIGIOUS & SPIRITUAL

#### All God's Children Metropolitan Community Church

A radically inclusive community committed to being All God's Children FOR all God's children!  
3100 Park Ave. S.  
Minneapolis, MN  
(612) 824-2673  
[www.agcmcc.org](http://www.agcmcc.org)

#### Central Lutheran Church

We welcome all people to discover, celebrate and share the love of Christ.  
333 Twelfth St. S.  
Minneapolis, MN  
(612) 870-4416  
[www.centralmpls.org](http://www.centralmpls.org)

### Edina Community Lutheran Church

Upbeat, growing congregation committed to inclusion, justice, peace, community and proclaiming God's YES to all.  
4113 W. 54th St.  
Edina, MN  
(952) 926-3808  
[www.eclc.org](http://www.eclc.org)

### First Christian Church - Disciples of Christ

A Movement for Wholeness In A Fragmented World.  
610 W. 28th St.  
Minneapolis, MN  
(612) 870-1868  
[www.fccminneapolis.org](http://www.fccminneapolis.org)

### New Life Presbyterian Church

Inclusive Christian faith community daring to live in Jesus' transforming love. Come and see.  
965 Larpenteur Ave. W.  
Roseville, MN 55113  
(651) 488-5581  
[www.newlifechurchroseville.org](http://www.newlifechurchroseville.org)

### The House of Hope Presbyterian Church

A Covenant Network Congregation welcoming all people.  
797 Summit Ave.  
St. Paul, MN  
(651) 227-6311  
[www.hohchurch.org](http://www.hohchurch.org)

### Plymouth Congregational Church, Minneapolis

Spiritual, Loving, Relevant, Transforming.  
Find us on Facebook and Twitter  
1900 Nicollet Ave. at Franklin  
Minneapolis, MN  
(612) 871-7400  
[www.plymouth.org](http://www.plymouth.org)

### St. Mark's Episcopal Cathedral

inquiring INSPIRING inclusive. Wherever you are on your faith journey, St Mark's welcomes you.  
519 Oak Grove St.  
Minneapolis, MN  
(612) 870-7800  
[www.ourcathedral.org](http://www.ourcathedral.org)

### St. Paul-Reformation Lutheran Church (ELCA)

Wingspan Ministry, Pastoral Care for the GLBT community, Education, Music, Witness and Advocacy  
100 N. Oxford St.  
St. Paul, MN 55104  
(651) 224-3371  
[www.stpaulref.org](http://www.stpaulref.org)

### United Methodist Reconciling Churches

Congregations around Minnesota that intentionally welcome all people regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity.  
[www.mnrcumc.org](http://www.mnrcumc.org)

### Westminster Presbyterian Church

An inclusive, welcoming, open and affirming congregation.  
Nicollet Mall at 12th St.  
Downtown Minneapolis  
(612) 332-3421  
[www.westminstermpls.org](http://www.westminstermpls.org)

### SPORTS & RECREATION

#### Twin Cities Goodtime Softball League (TCGSL)

Join 500 GLBT softball players as we celebrate 36 years of gay softball in Minnesota.  
P.O. Box 580264  
Minneapolis, MN  
[www.tcgsl.org](http://www.tcgsl.org)

### STATE FAIRS

#### Minnesota State Fair

The "Great Minnesota Get-Together" provides a world-class showcase that is innovative, entertaining and fun.  
1265 Snelling Ave. N.  
St. Paul, MN 55108  
(651) 288-4400  
[www.mnstatefair.org](http://www.mnstatefair.org)

### TRAVEL

#### Discover Stillwater

Voted best weekend getaway! Birthplace of Minnesota. Distinctive lodging. Shop / Dine / Cruise / Art Galleries / Nightlife.  
Stillwater, MN 55082  
(651) 351-1717  
<http://www.DiscoverStillwater.com>

#### Meet Minneapolis Convention & Visitor Association

Meet Minneapolis markets Minneapolis as the premier convention, leisure, weddings and group destination.  
250 Marquette Ave. S. #1300  
Minneapolis, MN 55401  
(612) 767-8000  
[www.minneapolis.org](http://www.minneapolis.org)

#### Visit Duluth

Lake Superior. Historic waterfront. Vibrant arts & dining. Adventure. Hotels and B&Bs. Attractions and events.  
21 W. Superior St., Ste. 100  
Duluth, MN  
(218) 722-4011, (800) 4-DULUTH  
[www.visitduluth.com](http://www.visitduluth.com)



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LAVENDER LENS | PHOTOS BY SOPHIA HANTZES



### LAVENDER'S FIRST THURSDAY AT SALSA A LA SALSA

NOVEMBER 5, 2015

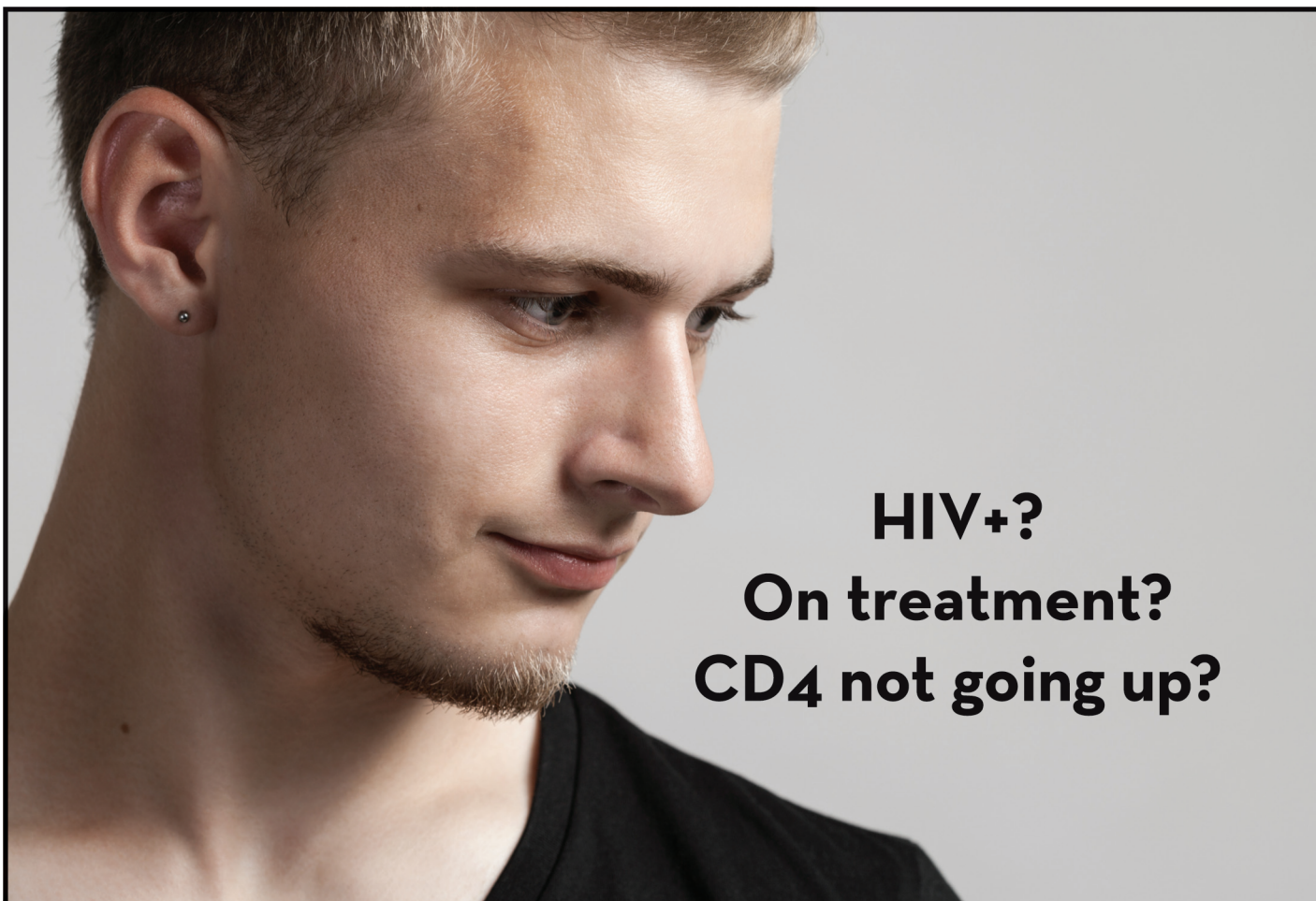


### "WE ARE TRANS" EXHIBIT AT THE SALOON

NOVEMBER 6, 2015







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